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South Dakota Network Against Family Violence and Sexual Assault

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January 17, 2002

Renata Hesse, Trial Attorney Antitrust Division U.S. Department of Justice 601 D Street N.W., Suite 1200 Washington, DC 20530

Dear Ms. Hesse:

My comments here are in favor of the settlement in *U.S. vs. Microsoft*, because the settlement's provisions will be a benefit for children in regions where poverty has prevented them from accessing the internet. The state government of South Dakota has put an emphasis of wiring our public schools and public buildings for the internet, but obtaining good software and hardware, and the support needed to make the systems work smoothly, have been lacking. The settlement will be of great benefit to this program and to the state's children.

I also feel the settlement is the right thing for our nation's economy. I have used Windows products for work and pleasure, and I am satisfied with the products. They empower people to gain the full benefit of the information superhighway, and they enable business people and non-profits to correspond on the same technical level. I think it is noteworthy that the antitrust case never established a finding that consumers were shortchanged by Microsoft.

Your attention to my letter is appreciated.

Sincerely,

Deb Aden